

Instructors' Challenge

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Special points of interest:

- Service Awards
- New Volunteer Instructors
- New MassWildlife Website

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Instructor's Reach Service Milestones

Each year we recognize and celebrate the dedication and service of Volunteer Instructors who have reached a significant program milestone. Their years of distinguished service are a testament to their commitment to ensuring the future of the hunting tradition. Congratulations to the 66 instructors who have achieved such a milestone. The following is a list of people who received a *Certificate of Appreciation* for their years of service. **We thank all of the recipients for their extraordinary efforts and continued support of the program!**

30 Year Award

Paul Westgate - Basic Instructor from Attleboro

25 Year Awards

Stanley McCauley - Basic Instructor from Tewksbury

Steven F. Stella - Basic Instructor from Tewksbury

Paul J. Topham – Basic, Bow Team Leader from Wrentham

20 Year Awards

James A. Benoit - Basic, Bow Team Leader from Florence

Thomas E. Bonnell - Bow Instructor from Ayer

Robert M. Butler - Basic Team Leader from Nantucket

Donald P. Dextraze - Basic Instructor from Haydenville

John M. Giunta - Basic Instructor from Townsend

Dennis A. Lefebvre – Bow Team Leader from Pepperell

George E. Reasor - Basic Instructor from Windham, NH

James H. Smith - Basic, Blk Powder Team Leader from Ayer

15 Year Awards

William J. Chazey Jr. - MC&S Instructor from Winsor

Thomas Dussault - Bow Instructor from Feeding Hills

John A. Green - MC&S Instructor from Adams

Randy Paul - Bow Team Leader from Tolland

Robert L. Rooks - Basic Instructor from Northboro

David M. St. Laurent - Bow Team Leader from Blandford

Francis A. Tremblay - MC&S Team Leader from Pittsfield

Patrick K. Warriner - Basic Instructor from Westminster

10 Year Awards

Michael G. Denault - Basic Team Leader from North Adams

James G. Geiger - Basic Instructor from Amherst

George H. Haas - Basic, Trapper, Waterfowl ID Team Leader from Montgomery

Alexander Hoar - Basic Instructor from Amherst

Peter B Markert - Basic Instructor from Hardwick

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Seventeen New Instructors Join The Program

On April 27th program staff welcomed seventeen New Volunteer Instructors into the program. The New instructors attended an introductory training workshop held at the temporary Field Headquarters in West Boylston. They hail from all over the state; if one of them lives near you, please reach out and welcome them to the program.



Pictured above are the New Instructors who joined the program April 27th 2013.

Brett Corliss—Natick

Thomas Decker—St. Johnsbury VT

Jayne Foley—Worcester

Mark Gentile—Norfolk

Daniel Hastings—Auburn

Ronald Hawkins—Hanover

James Howland—N. Dighton

Brandon Lagoy—Worthington

Paul Meehan—S. Easton

Richard Merchant—Rutland

Eric Olson—Middleboro

Michael Provost—Pembroke

Bethany Roberts—Bernardston

Richard Sorrentino—Tewksbury

Peter Stalker—Hubbardston

Barry Stallsmith—Beverly

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Wayne S. McLain - Basic Team Leader from North Adams

Paul M. O'Neil - Basic Instructor from Leyden

Larry W. Snider - Basic, MC&S Instructor from Newfane, VT

Daniel J. Shine - Basic, Blk Powder Instructor from Methuen

Thomas W. Walsh - Basic, Blk Powder Team Leader from Newburyport

5 Year Awards

Salvatore Amato - Basic Instructor from Belchertown

George Baggitt - Bow Instructor from Chatham

James Bolduc - Basic Instructor from Colrain

James Burry - Basic Instructor from Falmouth

Stanley Casey - Bow Instructor from Billerica

Robert DeLisle - Basic Instructor from Edgartown

David Desley - Bow, MC&S Instructor from Raynham

Eric d'Hedouville - Basic Instructor from Falmouth

Karen DiCampo - MC&S Instructor from Lunenburg

Christopher Dwyer - Trapper Ed, Waterfowl ID Instructor from Hadley

James Dziedzina - Basic Instructor from Agawam

Pamela Edgecombe - Basic Instructor from North Attleboro

Roger Ellis, Sr. - Basic, Waterfowl ID Instructor from Carver

Esther Erickson - Basic Instructor from Ashburnham

Paola Ferrario - Basic Instructor from Holyoke

Robert Fitch Sr. - Basic, Blk Powder Instructor from East Bridgewater

Carl Hildebrandt - Basic Instructor from Springfield

Russell Iuliano - Basic, MC&S Instructor from S. Dartmouth

Albert Kasper IV - Basic Instructor from East Longmeadow

John Knox - Basic Instructor from Chelmsford

Rudolph Lysick - Basic, Bow Instructor from Chicopee

Donald Minney - Bow Instructor from Belchertown

Stephen Morawski - Basic Instructor from Russell

Lawrence Morley, Sr. - Basic, Bow Team Leader from Granby

Richard "Ben" Pierce - Basic Instructor from E. Falmouth

Maurice Roy - Basic Instructor from Mashpee

John Theriault - Basic Instructor from East Otis

Paul Tower - Basic Instructor from Montgomery

Brian Tucholke - Basic Instructor from W. Falmouth

Robert Verzone - Basic, Bow, Waterfowl ID Instructor from Plymouth

Lee Weishar - Basic Team Leader from Falmouth

Donald Woodruff - Basic Instructor from Needham

James Young - Basic Instructor from Waquoit

Diane Zuck - Basic Instructor from Brockton

Michael Zyburia - Basic, Bow Instructor from Chicopee

Michael Zimmerman - Basic, Bow Instructor from Hampden

House Panel Approves Protections for Hunting on Public Land

U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance
June 14, 2013

Legislation ensuring sportsmen's access to federal lands cleared its first hurdle in June as the House Natural Resources Committee voted 28-15 in favor of H.R. 1825. Known as the *Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act*, H.R. 1825 is the most significant legislation protecting sportsmen's access in 16 years.

The bill shuts the door on abusive lawsuits brought by anti-hunting groups aimed at pushing sportsmen and women off federal lands. H.R. 1825 spells out in plain language that fishing, hunting and recreational shooting are legitimate and important activities on National Forests and Bureau of Land Manage-

ment (BLM) lands. The key provision of the bill is the "Open Until Closed" language, which mandates that U.S. Forest Service and BLM lands are open to hunting, fishing and recreational shooting unless specific steps are taken to close those lands for necessary and demonstrable reasons.



The "Open Until Closed" provision is a "game changer" for the future of hunting, fishing and recreational shooting on public land. The U.S. Sports-

men's Alliance led the charge for similar 1997 legislation that protects sportsmen's access to National Wildlife Refuge land that has resulted in new refuges open to hunting all across America.

"It's high time that Congress put a stop to frivolous lawsuits brought by the anti-hunting lobby and the 'Open Until Closed' language will do just that," said Bill Horn, director of federal affairs for the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance. "American sportsmen and women are fed up with having to fight lawsuit after lawsuit just to access public lands. We urge Congress to move this critical legislation quickly."

Sportsmen's Groups Urge Action on Climate Change

On March 11, 2013 ten sportsmen's groups sent a letter to President Barack Obama urging him to stand firm on the commitment to develop and implement climate change adaptation strategies that was made in his inaugural and State of the Union addresses. The groups, including Ducks Unlimited, the Izaak Walton League of America, Pheasants Forever, Quail Forever, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, the Wildlife Management Institute, and several fishing organizations, recommended the administration focus on concrete steps to prepare for the predicted increases in floods, drought, and fire.

"The hunting and angling community has many experiences with climate change. Because of the time we spend in the woods, fields, lakes and rivers, changes in weather patterns are not an

abstraction to us," the groups wrote in the letter. "This past year alone, we saw iconic rivers such as the Yampa in Colorado and Madison in Montana closed to fishing due to high water temperatures. Likewise, we saw droughts in the Midwest dry up duck marshes, and wildfires of uncommon intensity burn more than 9 million acres of game habitat."

The letter urges the president to implement and fund some of the recommendations within the 2009 report *Beyond Seasons' End*. Specifically, the groups support projects that promote the conservation of a network of interconnected habitats and migration corridors as well as the restoration of habitats that were biologically productive in the past. Projects that prioritize lower cost restoration of natural systems over infrastructure development,

such as restoration of flood plains over infrastructure projects like levees and channels, can restore or create fish and wildlife habitat while reducing impacts on human communities.

"We urge you to take the actions within your power to protect, reconnect and restore fish and wildlife habitats in service of a climate adaptation strategy, and to maintain current conservation programs as budget priorities," the groups continued. "The existing federal conservation funding programs will be critical to adaptation strategies when done in concert on a landscape scale."

The full letter to the president is available on the Wildlife Management Institute website.



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We're on the Web!
www.Mass.gov/MassWildlife

NEW WEBSITE LOOK

Starting In June, the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) website has a new look. It is part of an ongoing statewide effort that results in a standard "look and feel" among all state government agency websites. You'll also see this new look on the websites for the Department of Fish and Game, Division of Marine Fisheries, Office of Boating and Fishing Access and the Division of Ecological Restoration. New and useful features for the new format include wider pages, enhanced "breadcrumb" navigation, and mobile phone/tablet viewing readiness. The DFW main web page address remains the same www.mass.gov/masswildlife and the information from the old address will have been moved to the new website. You will need to update any favorites, bookmarked, or saved searches on specific DFW web pages as those links will no longer work.

The Instructor Web Page URL has also changed. Use the address below to get to the Instructor's home page, the [Request To Conduct A Course](#) submission page, as well as other instructor resources.

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/education-events/hed/instructor-home-page.html>

More Instructors Needed For MJCC

The MA Hunter Education Program conducts Basic and Bow Hunter Education courses annually at the MA Junior Conservation Camp. This year the dates for the Basic course are August 6th, 7th, and 10th, and the date for the Bow course is August 11th. In order to deliver the highest quality learning experience possible for the campers, we are in need of six more instructors to teach on each of the two full days (8/7 & 8/10) of the Basic course, and two more instructors to teach the Bow course on 8/11. Please consider teaching with us at the MJCC this year! Contact the program office for more information.

Antlerless Permit Deadline Nears

Deer hunters wishing to hunt antlerless deer must possess a valid antlerless deer permit. DFW reminds applicants that with the **MassFishHunt** electronic system there is a two step online process for anyone wishing to try to obtain an antlerless deer permit.

Step 1: Apply for an antlerless deer permit by July 16. You can submit your application for an antlerless deer permit through any computer or through a license vendor any time before July 17th. There is no fee to apply for an antlerless deer permit.

Applying from any computer (i.e. home, office, library, vendor)-- Go to the **MassFishHunt** website at www.mass.gov/massfishhunt and enter your Customer ID number. A page with your personal information will appear. Click on the blue "Enter Sales" button at the bottom right of your screen. Click on "Hunting Permits and Stamps" in the menu at the left side of your screen. Click on "Antlerless Deer permit application" and then select a zone. Click the blue "check out" button on this screen and then click check out again on the next screen. Even though the application has no cost associated with it you must proceed all the way through checkout for the application to be submitted. Note: if you have already applied for an antlerless deer permit you will not see that deer permit option listed.

Step 2: August 1-- return to MassFishHunt to participate in the new Instant Award process. Beginning August 1, 2013 and continuing through the end of the calendar year, antlerless deer permit applicants must return to the [MassFishHunt website](http://www.mass.gov/massfishhunt) from a computer, any authorized license agent location, or any MassWildlife Office to try to win their antlerless deer permit in the zone for which they previously applied.

Enter your last name and Customer ID number. A page with your personal information will appear. Click on the blue "Enter Sales" button at the bottom right of your screen. Click on "Hunting Permits and Stamps" in the menu at the left side of your screen. Click on "Antlerless Deer permit" and you will see the zone for which you originally applied. Click on the "add" button next to your zone and you will instantly receive a message that informs you if you have won your permit or not. Winning permits will be placed in your shopping cart where you can pay the \$5.00 permit fee immediately and print the permit, or leave the winning permit in the shopping cart where it will remain until payment is made or until the permit expires at the end of 2013.